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Over \$2.6 Million in Life Insurance Benefits Located for New Hampshire Residents

Concord, NH – The New Hampshire Insurance Department announces that unclaimed life insurance benefits totaling \$2,645,689 have been located for New Hampshire residents since the program's inception in November 2016.

Each year, millions of dollars in life insurance benefits go unclaimed by beneficiaries who cannot find their loved ones' policies. In some cases, they may not even know these policies exist. To assist consumers, the National Association of Insurance Commissioners (NAIC) maintains the Life Insurance Policy Locator Service, a free tool that enables beneficiaries, executors, or legal representatives of a deceased person to track down the life insurance policies or annuity contracts of their late family members or friends.

"The Lost Policy Locator Service can help ease the burden on grieving family members and friends during an already difficult time," said Insurance Commissioner Chris Nicolopoulos. "September is Life Insurance Awareness Month and I'm proud to help promote this useful tool that all New Hampshire residents can use."

Since 2016, there have been 758 search requests in New Hampshire and 283 policies have been matched. All locator requests are secure, confidential and free. Any matches found by participating insurers are reported to state insurance agencies. The companies are responsible for contacting the beneficiaries.

To request a policy locator search, consumers can complete the NAIC's online Life Insurance Policy Locator Service <u>request form</u>. Once the request is complete, the NAIC will send the policyholder's information to all licensed life insurance companies. The companies will check their records to determine if they have a policy matching the beneficiary's information.

It may take up to 90 business days to receive a response related to a request. If a lost policy is found, the consumer will need to provide verifying documentation to the insurance company to receive the benefit. A certified death certificate is the most helpful document. Bank statements and identification cards with personal information may also be useful. If no matches are found, requesters will not receive a response.

About the New Hampshire Insurance Department

The New Hampshire Insurance Department's mission is to promote and protect the public good by ensuring the existence of a safe and competitive insurance marketplace through the development and enforcement of the insurance laws of the State of New Hampshire. Contact us with any questions or concerns you may have regarding your insurance coverage at 1-800-852-3416 or (603) 271-2261, or by email at consumerservices@ins.nh.gov. For more information, visit www.nh.gov/insurance.